

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SP-02 PM-03 INR-05 NSC-05 NSCE-00

OMB-01 USIA-01 PRS-01 L-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 EURE-00

/042 W

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P 031125Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9433

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 4978

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CY TU GR

SUBJECT: EXPULSION OF GREEK CYPRIOTS FROM KARPASS

1. DURING THE COURSE OF A MEETING I HAD THIS MORNING WITH ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER STAVROPOULOS ON ANOTHER SUBJECT (SEPTTEL), WE HAD A BRIEF DISCUSSION OF THE SITUATION ON CYPRUS, AND HE TOLD ME THAT HE HAD CALLED IN THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR ON THE SUBJECT OF THE EXPULSION OF GREEK CYPRIOTS FROM KARPASS. HE SAID THAT THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR HAD STATED HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOTS WHO HAD LEFT KARPASS HAD DONE SO "VOLUNTARILY". STAVROPOULOS EXPRESSED ASTONISHMENT AND INQUIRED WHY THE GREEK CYPRIOTS, IF THEY HAD LEFT "VOLUNTARILY", WOULD HAVE DONE SO ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE WITH VIRTUALLY NONE OF THEIR PERSONAL BELONGINGS? THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR SAID HE DID NOT KNOW BUT WOULD INQUIRE OF HIS GOVERNMENT AND BE BACK IN TOUCH WITH STAVROPOULOS. IN ANY CASE, THE TURKISH AMB WENT ON, THIS MOVEMENT OF THE GREEK CYPRIOTS FROM KARPASS WAS IN RESPONSE TO THE ABUSIVE TREATMENT BY THE GREEK CYPRIOTS OF A NUMBER OF TURKISH CYPRIOTS IN THE SOUTH WHO WANTED TO MOVE TO THE NORTH OF CYPRUS.

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2. STAVROPOULOS TOLD THE TURKISH AMB -- AND ME --

THAT HE HAD LEARNED WITH THE GREATEST CHAGRIN OF THE DOZEN OR SO TURKISH CYPRIOTS BEING MANHANDLED AND THOUGHT THIS WAS A "STUPIDITY". EVEN SO, STAVROPOULOS SAID HE ASKED THE TURKISH AMB -- OBVIOUSLY WITH SARCASM -- WHY THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS RESPONDED IN SUCH A "GENEROUS AND KIND" MANNER TO THE ABUSIVE WAY THEIR BRETHREN HAD BEEN TREATED IN THE SOUTH? ACCORDING TO STAVROPOULOS, THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR HAD NO GOOD ANSWER.

3. STAVROPOULOS WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE HAD SENT INSTRUCTIONS TO THE GREEK EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON TO TAKE THIS MATTER UP WITH THE DEPT AND INDICATING HE HAD RECEIVED AN OVERNIGHT TELEGRAM FROM WASHINGTON ON THE SUBJECT, SEARCHED THROUGH HIS PAPERS TO FIND IT. HE PRODUCED A TELEGRAM OF 3 OR 4 PARAS EVIDENTLY REPORTING ON AMB ALEXANDRAKIS' CALL ON DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LAINGEN YESTERDAY, AND READING IT HE SEEMED TO BE SATISFIED WITH THE REPORT OF THE CONVERSATION.

4. MAKING A MORE GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS AND THE CYPRUS SITUATION NOW, STAVROPOULOS SAID THAT SEVERAL MONTHS AGO THE GOG HAD FELT THAT IT WAS BEING BADLY BATTERED ABOUT IN A STORMY SEA WITH NO SIGNS ANYWHERE ON THE HORIZON OF A POSSIBLE SATISFACTORY SETTLEMENT ON CYPRUS. TODAY BY CONTRAST, HE WENT ON, THE GREEKS FELT THAT THE STORMY SEA HAD SUBSIDED AND THAT THEY WERE NOW MOVING THROUGH CALM AND TRANQUIL SEAS -- BUT THERE WERE STILL NO SIGNS ANYWHERE ON THE HORIZON OF A SATISFACTORY SETTLEMENT ON CYPRUS. EVEN SO, HE SAID, HE AND OTHERS IN THE GREEK GOVT REMAINED OPTIMISTIC, OPTIMISTIC BECAUSE THEY BELIEVED THAT SOONER OR LATER THE TURKS WOULD REALIZE THAT THEIR OWN INTERESTS WOULD BE FAR BETTER SERVED IF THEY BECAME MORE CONCILIATORY AND NEGOTIATED A JUST SETTLEMENT ON CYPRUS THAT HAD SOME PROSPECT OF BEING SUSTAINED.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EXPULSION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POPULATION MOVEMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975ATHENS04978  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750230-1176  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <07 MAY 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <08 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EXPULSION OF GREEK CYPRIOTS FROM KARPASS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, CY, TU, GR, (STAVRPOULOS)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006